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APR 11 2005

1107348-0008

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Nghi Pham et al.  
Serial No. : 10/671,856  
Filed : September 25, 2003  
For : Friction Assembly and Method for Manufacturing Same  
Examiner : Robert Siconolfi  
Group Art Unit : 3683  
Docket No. : 1107348-0008

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below at the facsimile number 703-872-9306.	
Andrew Fessak	48,528
Agent Name	PTO Reg. No.
<i>Andrew Fessak</i>	4/11/05
Signature	Date of Signature

Mail Stop Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Facsimile: 1-703-872-9306  
Pages: 14 pages total

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)

Sir:

Applicants submit this communication and the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Consideration of the documents listed on Form PTO/SB/08A is respectfully requested.

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As part of this communication, Applicants are providing the Examiner with a copy of a Search Report which was issued by the European Patent Office for application no. EP 04255805. EP 04255805 and the instant application are members of the same patent family. The documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08A have been cited in the Search Report for EP 04255805. The Search Report was mailed on February 2, 2005, i.e., not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants are providing an English-language Abstract for German-language patent document EP 999,376, which was cited in the Search Report and listed on Form PTO/SB/08A. Applicants do not have an English-language translation of this document. The relevance of EP 999,376 is provided in the Search Report. Accordingly, Applicants submit that they have satisfied their duty of disclosure.

#### **Copies of Cited U.S. Patent Documents are Not Provided**

As announced in the Official Gazette of August 5, 2003, the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003 has been waived.

Accordingly, copies of any U.S. patents and/or published patent applications cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are not provided with this Information Disclosure Statement.

#### **Time of Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) after mailing date of a final action under §1.113, but before payment of an Issue Fee

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**STATEMENT and FEE**

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is:

A. ☒ a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e).

**AND**

B. ☒ the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(e). (\$180.00).

**STATEMENT**

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

If any fees additional are due for submission of this communication, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: April 11, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Fessak

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)(modified)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/671,856
		Filing Date	September 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Nghi Pham et al.
		Art Unit	3683
		Examiner Name	Robert Siconolfi
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	1107348-0008	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear
		US-2004/035651-A1	02-26-2004	Renauld	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	1 <sup>6</sup>
		EP-999,376-A	05-10-2000	Kirschdorf		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T
		European Search Report for application EP 04255805.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation (invention number) (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Under Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.2). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.2 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORM TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.